

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

STATE SENATOR LENA C. TAYLOR



COMMUNITY ALERT

Blanketing Greater Milwaukee

From January 20 to 31 the Milwaukee Area Labor Council and United Way are collecting new and gently used blankets for homeless shelters and community agencies

Drop off locations:

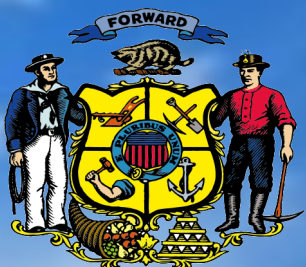
Milwaukee Area Labor Council: 633 South Hawley Road, Suite 110

United Way of Greater Milwaukee: 225 West Vine Street

Dear Friend,

Thank you for reading the legislative update. I hope you find the information provided here useful.

As Always, I'm
Here to Serve!

**STATE OF THE UNION**

On Wednesday President Obama delivered the State of the Union address. While he recognized that our county is strong, he also noted that there is still plenty of work to do on a variety of issues. The President spoke passionately about addressing the needs of our veterans, and the necessity to provide the services that our heroes deserve. In addition to the proper care, including mental health services, we need programs that put veterans back to work here at home.

But it's not just our veterans that need jobs, there are many others struggling to find work, and in the meantime are unable to receive unemployment benefits. The President urged congress to come up with initiatives that train workers and connect employees with qualified candidates, and to extend long-term unemployment benefits so that hard working taxpayers can pay their bills and feed their kids while they are looking for new work.

I was so glad to hear the President bring up equal pay for equal work. It seems like a simple concept, with a simple solution, but it remains today that women still only make about 77 cents per every dollar that men make. We talk about the progress that we have made as a nation, but fail to address inequalities that are staring at

us in the face. As a woman it infuriates me that year after year pass without action. From women like Hilary Clinton who has shown tremendous leadership, to a dedicated single mom working to provide for her family, women deserve a fair wage.



Source: www.whitehouse.gov



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WINTER SAFETY TIPS

It is extremely important to take extra precautions this winter, as cold temperatures and tumultuous winter storms can easily endanger you and your family's safety. Make sure to check in on children and the elderly, as they are the most vulnerable to the cold. It is wise to winterize your home as well. There are many different steps to take to insulate our homes and prevent frozen pipes. Outside of your homes remember to shut external vents, turn of outside water irrigation systems and remove any attached hoses. Inside your home, fill any cracks and crevices, because anywhere that cold can enter the house, heat will also leave. Make sure kitchen and bathroom cabinet doors are open, this will allow heat to reach the pipes and prevents them from freezing. Also, if possible insulate pipes in unheated areas, as these are most vulnerable to freezing. Most importantly, make sure your thermostats are set to no lower than 55 degrees Fahrenheit, any lower could invite the potential for frozen pipes. Although this may lead to higher energy bills, the costs associated with repairing damaged piping will inevitably be more expensive if the proper precautions are not taken. I hope that everyone stays safe on the road and in their homes during the next few months. Here's to hoping for an early spring!

Wise Words of the Week!

Contact Us!

We Enjoy
Hearing
From You!

*"And in the coming months, let's see
where else we can make progress togeth-
er. Let's make this a year of action."*

— Barack Obama



*"Success is falling nine times and getting
up ten."*

— Jon Bon Jovi

